

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of claims:

Claims 1, 2 and 4 have been amended as follows: Underlines indicate insertions and ~~strikethroughs~~ indicate deletions.

1. (Currently amended) A telescopic hoist, operated by a fluid, open to the atmosphere at a first end thereof and having an hydraulic inlet port at a second end thereof opposite said first end, comprising:

a series of tubular sections, each tubular section being closed by a piston head on a side of said second end with an opening for passage of a fluid under pressure through successive areas enclosed between two successive piston heads; and

wherein each piston head comprises a bore seal, each bore seal providing a sealing wall between successive areas where the fluid is present, on a side of said second end ~~and areas where the fluid is absent~~ on a side of said first end; and

wherein said tubular sections are formed in a nitrided steel, surfaces of walls in the nitrided steel of the tubular sections being in contact with one another as the tubular sections are telescopically displaced as a result of introduction of the fluid under pressure, surface asperities of the surfaces providing formation of a film of the fluid on the sliding walls of the telescopically arranged and moving tubular sections.

2. (Currently amended) A telescopic hoist, open to the atmosphere at a first end thereof opposite a second end thereof provided with a fluid inlet, comprising:

a series of telescopically actuatable tubular sections; each tubular section being closed by a piston head having an opening, on a side of said second end, for passage of a pressure fluid therethrough; and

bore seals means between areas enclosed by two successive piston heads maintaining for confining the fluid on said side of the second end;

wherein said hoist is formed in a nitrided steel, and, as a result of introduction of the fluid under pressure, surface asperities of telescopically sliding surfaces provide formation of a film of the fluid thereon.

3. (Previously Cancelled)

4. (Currently amended) A telescopic hoist, operated by a fluid under pressure at a first end thereof, and open to the atmosphere at a second end thereof, comprising:

a cylindrical housing;

a series of fluid pressure actuatable tubular sections telescopically received in said housing; each said tubular section being closed by a piston head with an inlet port for passage of a pressure fluid therethrough from a side of said first end; and

bore seal means mounted in said piston heads, for maintaining confining said fluid on said side of said first end;

wherein said tubular sections are formed in a nitrided steel, a film of the fluid forming on asperities of walls of the tubular sections on said side of said first end as they are telescopically displaced under action of the fluid under pressure.

5. (Previously amended) A bore seal telescopic hoist, operated by a fluid under pressure, comprising:

a series of tubular sections; and

a tubular housing with an open end to receive said series of tubular sections, said tubular sections being telescopically arranged in said tubular housing;

wherein said series of tubular sections comprises an outermost tubular section and at least two inner tubular sections, said outermost tubular section having a

head provided with a hydraulic inlet port allowing a fluid to be introduced in a first area between said head and a piston head of an outermost one of said at least two inner tubular sections, said outermost one of said at least two inner tubular sections having an opening allowing the fluid to be received in a second area enclosed between the piston head thereof and a piston head of a successive tubular section, each piston head being provided with a bore seal confining the fluid on a side of the hydraulic inlet port, said tubular sections being made in a nitrided steel, and, when the tubular sections are telescopically displaced under action of the fluid under pressure a film of the fluid is formed, on said side of the hydraulic inlet port on sliding walls of the telescopically arranged and moving tubular sections due to a presence of surface asperities thereon.